

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 19, with the following paragraph:

Traditionally, telephone numbers of portable telephone terminals are handled as possessions, and therefore, number porting, in which transition to another communication carrier is performed without changing the telephone number, is impossible. However, recently, due to increasing competition of portable telephone services, needs for introducing the number portability system in which the communication ~~carrier~~carrier can be easily switched without changing the telephone number have been increased, and since in each country in Europe and United States and others, similar system is already introduced, and domestically, studies for the introduction at government level are implemented, the introduction will be achieved at some future time.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 9, with the following paragraph:

However, if number porting, in which a user can use the same telephone number as before in the case of switching a communication ~~carrier~~carrier, is achieved, the user must conclude a contract for ending utilization with a communication ~~carrier~~carrier before transition and a contract for utilization with a communication ~~carrier~~carrier after transition, and for various services to which the user subscribed before transition, must contract again with each service company after transition and must notify the communication carrier after transition of a payment financial institution for the utilization fee, taking time and effort in its own way. Therefore, it is contemplated that communication carriers build support systems with computers for easily achieving the number porting by users. But, since the number porting by users has no merit for the communication carrier before transition, it seems unlikely that the carrier will actively support the burden of the user, and there is no other choice than building a service basically shouldered by users. For the communication carrier after transition, there is merit of new subscriptions due to the transition, but for various services other than the telephone number, processes will be easier and more reliable by making these services handled as new contracts rather than making services before transition continued. Therefore, if the number porting by users is achieved as a system, it is not necessarily expected that the support system is established from the user's standpoint as long as depending on the communication carriers. As a result, despite presence

of many users who want to transit to another portable telephone company for the reason that, for example, the fee and others become cheaper, in fact, it is expected to continue using the portable telephone company currently contracted, avoiding efforts to search various after-transition services equivalent to the services contracted before transition and conclude a contract again, and in order to eliminate this, it is desirable to build a system in which transition of services associated with the number porting can be performed smoothly.